

REMARKS

In the specification, the title and abstract are amended to more accurately reflect the nature of the invention. In addition, the first full paragraph is amended to introduce a priority claim.

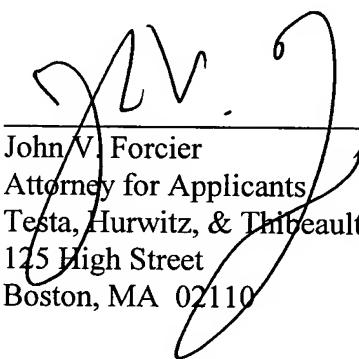
Applicants have cancelled claims 1-26 without prejudice and added new claims 27-43. New claims 27-43 are fully supported at least at page 21, line 60, to page 22, line 27, page 40, line 30, to page 41, line 4, and FIGS. 18A and 18B. No new matter is entered thereby.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request entry of this amendment prior to examination of the application on the merits. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned to discuss any outstanding issues.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: September 12, 2003
Reg. No. 42,545
Tel. No. (617) 248-7675
Fax No. (617) 790-0100


John V. Forcier
Attorney for Applicants
Testa, Hurwitz, & Thibeault, LLP
125 High Street
Boston, MA 02110

2682355_1